

From: salem
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:50pm
Subject: microsoft settlement

76 Old Stage Road
Westfield, MA 01085-5172

January 14, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I am writing this letter to show my support for the settlement that has been reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. The antitrust suit was filed three years ago, and it has cost the government and Microsoft millions of dollars. Considering the fact that we are suffering through a recession, the settlement is the best thing that could have happened in the antitrust dispute.

Although the lawsuit is now almost over, Microsoft did not get off easy. This settlement has teeth, and it looks like the biggest benefactor of the agreement will be a Microsoft's competitor. Microsoft has had to agree to document and disclose for use by its competitors various interfaces that are internal to Windows' operating system products. That move is a first in an antitrust settlement.

I support the settlement since it puts an end to the litigation that has been hampering American innovation for the past three years.

Sincerely,

MTC-00019816_0002

George Salem